

**Kootenai JSEC Minutes**  
**May 16, 2007**

**Attending:**

**Pam Rhodes-Achievements**  
**Chris Erickson-City of Libby**  
**Alana Messenbrink-Libby Dam**  
**Jamie Brebner-Homesteaders**  
**Pat Pezzelle-FVCC, LCC**  
**Jodi Morgan-Town Pump**  
**Jean Pittsley-AFLCIO PCWA**  
**Jessie Conrad-Montanore Mine**  
**Kari Martell-Kootenai Wkfc Ctr**

**Louise Rice-Chamber of Commerce**  
**Glena Young-City of Libby**  
**Maria Clemons-LC Community Health**  
**Randy Holm-NWMT Human Resource**  
**Andrea Wandler-FVCC, LCC**  
**Mark Clark-FV Chemical Dependency**  
**Linda Gerrard-Venture Inn**  
**Mike Shoquist-NWMT Workforce Ctr**  
**Johnette Watkins-Kootenai Wkfc Ctr**

**Welcome & Introductions-** Chris Erickson announced that she is getting married and moving to Billings. Congratulations, Chris! We will miss you! Chris introduced Glena Young who will replace her as City of Libby Clerk. Glena has worked for Lincoln County for several years. Randy Holm also brought a guest; Jodi Morgan, manager of Town Pump.

**Minutes Approval/Treasurer's Report:**

Andrea Wandler reported Savings-\$1097.40, Checking-\$49.35. Andrea has \$441.77 to deposit from our seminars and Johnette has another \$830.00 to turn over to Andrea. The Marketing seminar took in \$350. The HR Boot Camp took in \$500. We split profits with Jim Nys after subtracting Jim's expenses for mileage and refreshments for participants. We sent a check to Jim for \$289.93 for mileage, copies, and his share of the profit.

Johnette neglected to e-mail the minutes for April! Approval tabled.

**JSEC Business**

**Last Meeting** – Johnette announced that this will be our last meeting unless we would like to have a June meeting, or if we would like to continue to meet all summer. Everybody thought it best to have this be our last meeting. Jamie motioned and Pat seconded. Pat suggested that maybe the committees would want to meet during the summer at least once. Everyone thought this would be a good idea. Making the meeting(s) a fun event like a summer picnic was discussed. Chris made a motion for summer picnic, Pat seconded. The committee chairs will schedule the meeting(s).

**State Convention** - Both Pat Pezzelle and Louise Rice have had other important things come up and will not be able to attend the State JSEC Convention. There is still time to send alternates. This is a wonderful networking and educational opportunity and is all expenses paid for JSEC members! If anybody is interested in attending be sure to let Johnette know right away. We would love to have you! This will be a fun event!

Johnette announced that she has Raffle Tickets for sale for a stay at a really nice Bed & Breakfast in Bozeman if anyone is interested in purchasing some.

**What's New At Job Service**

**Management Changes** – Mike talked about the significant changes in the structure of the Dept. of Labor Workforce Services Division. Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, the Job Service field operations will be divided into 5 Regions which coincide with the 5 Economic Development regions established by Dept. of Commerce. Instead of 14 Workforce Center Managers there will be 5 Regional Directors who will establish an increased focus on strong community partnerships with Business, Education and Economic

Development. There will also be an emphasis on training, assessments and testing for job seekers and business assessments, including more outreach to outlying areas.

**HAZMAT Training** – Mike thanked Pat Pezzelle for responding so quickly to provide HAZWOPER training to 25 individuals in Libby. The Job Service program staff found that they had some additional Adult funds to spend and with Kari and Pat Pezzelle's help they quickly put together this training. The feedback from those who attended was very good.

**Training Program Funds** – There have also been some changes in the way the WIA training funds will be dispersed. Northwest MT Human Resources will be responsible for the Youth program in this district and Job Service will operate the Dislocated Worker program with the help of AFL\_CIO Project Challenge Work Again.

**Economic Development Summit** – Johnette and Mike reported on the Economic Development Summit they attended in Butte. 2500 people attended this extraordinary event which included first-class, high powered speakers that included Bill Gates-Microsoft Corporation (via satellite), Ben Bernanke-Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Robert Rubin-former Secretary of the Treasury, Harold McGraw-McGraw Hill, August Busch IV-President/CEO of Anheuser-Busch. Other speakers included Max Baucus, Brian Schweitzer, Jon Tester, Denny Rehberg, Frank Gilmore-MT Tech Chancellor, tribal representatives and ambassadors from the countries of Bahrain, Chile, China, Indonesia, Korea and Panama.

Numerous business specific workshops and panel discussions were held with representatives from many highly successful Montana private employers. To have an event of this caliber, open to the general public was a truly unique opportunity in Montana. A big portion of this event was to provide opportunity for international trade for Montana business and industry.

**Jobs Picking Up** – Job openings are picking up with 68 currently

### **Youth Outreach Committee**

**New Chairperson Needed.**- Randy Holm agreed to serve as Youth Outreach Chairperson.

**Community Job Fair** - Johnette reported that the Community Job Fair was a success with 13 Employers and 140 Job Seekers participating.

### **Professional Development Committee**

**Marketing Seminar** – Johnette reported that 10 people attended this all day seminar. It was very good with lots of interaction between attendees.

**HR Boot Camp** – 20 people attended the half-day HR Boot Camp put on by Jim Nys and his assistant, Kelly. There was a lot of detailed information shared that is vital for any business with employees. The next session is tentatively scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Business Updates**

**BEAR Program** – The Business Expansion and Retention program is moving forward in Lincoln County with the first Lincoln County BEAR visit conducted last week. This program should develop into an excellent resource for businesses and the community.

**Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** – This document is proceeding as scheduled.

**Montana Means Business** – Johnette mentioned that there is a great new web site that provides “presentation quality” demographic and statistics graphs and charts for business use. From the Web Site, “Montana Means Business combines geographic technology with extensive demographic, consumer, and business data to deliver valuable reports and numerous maps tailored to meet the needs of economic development prospectors”.

The promised web link is: <http://www.gcs-research.net/mmbdev/>

You need to register to use the site and the navigation takes a little getting used to but it is well worth the trouble.

**MSHA at LCC** – Lincoln County Campus is partnering with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry to bring a 32 hour MSHA training to Libby, June 19<sup>th</sup> through June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fee for the training is only \$75 due to a grant through Dept. of Labor. Class size is limited to the first 32 students to register and pay for the class.

**Video – “A Whole New Mind – Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future”**

Due to lots of good discussion at this meeting, we did not have time to view much of the video. Several people stayed late to finish viewing it and all thought it was exceptionally thought provoking and relevant.

This DVD is available for check-out at Kootenai Workforce Center along with other videos, dvd's and books.

**Adjourn - Next Meeting: To be announced.**